

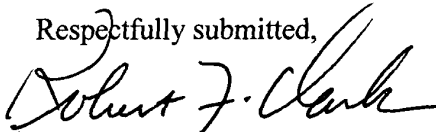
REMARKS

Claims 10-39 are cancelled. Claims 1, 5 and 6 are amended. Claim 40-45 have been added.

The Applicants respectfully assert that the claims as presently amended are allowable of the prior art of record in application Serial No. 09/965,444 of which this application is a continuation. In particular, the Applicants point out that Baresel et al. (U.S., 3,902,917) describe an active tungsten carbide catalyst but do not teach or suggest an electrochemically activated tungstate catalyst supported on a carbon support.

In view of the foregoing amendment, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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